



January 19, 2023

A Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Ecumenical Week to Focus on Racial Justice

January 18 – 25, 2023

~ by Elise Ann Allen, CRUX

ROME – Nearly three years ago, a Black man named George Floyd died at the hands of a white police officer, sparking mass protests throughout the United States and beyond with demonstrators demanding an end to systemic racism.



The ripple effect of Floyd's death continues to be felt, so much so that it is serving as a catalyst for this year's "Week of Prayer for Christian Unity," which will see believers throughout the world discussing how to join

forces in fighting racial injustice.

The theme for this year's observance will be a biblical verse from the Book of Isaiah, "Learn to do good, seek justice."

The week will be punctuated by several ecumenical prayers and liturgical services held at various churches throughout Rome and the rest of the world, which will be attended by the leaders of various Christian churches and communities.

Materials for this year's Week of Prayer for Christian Unity were prepared by the Minnesota Council of Churches in the United States. Minnesota was where the

George Floyd incident occurred, and where some of the most prominent protests surrounding his death took place.

The Council said the Prophet Isaiah's command to do good and to seek justice was a response to the injustice and inequalities he saw during his own time, prompting him to speak out against political, social and even spiritual corruption by condemning the hypocrisy of those who offered sacrifices while oppressing the poor.

“Our world today in many ways mirrors the challenges of division that Isaiah confronts in his preaching,” the Council said, saying, “separation and oppression continue to be manifest when any single group or class is given privileges above others.”

“The sin of racism is evident in any beliefs or practices that distinguish or elevate one ‘race’ over another. When accompanied or sustained by imbalances in power, racial prejudice moves beyond individual relationships to the very structures of society – the systemic perpetuation of racism,” they said, saying even Christians have at time been complicit in perpetuating “prejudice and oppression and fostering division.”



Self-reflection is needed to correct the problem, they said, saying the upcoming week of prayer is an ideal time for Christians “to recognize that the divisions between our churches and confessions cannot be separated from the divisions within the wider human family.”

“Praying together for Christian unity allows us to reflect on what unites us and to commit ourselves to confront oppression and division amongst humanity,” they said, adding, “the unity of Christians should be a sign and foretaste of the reconciled unity of the entire creation.”

“Let us be open to God's presence in all our encounters with each other as we seek to be transformed, to dismantle the systems of oppression, and to heal the sins of racism. Together, let us engage in the struggle for justice in our society. We all belong to Christ,” the Council said.

To read the entire account, please click [here](#)

Cabrini Health Celebrates 75 Years!



Cabrini Health Australia
Just now



75 years ago today, a courageous group of Cabrini Sisters arrived in Melbourne to set up a hospital in Malvern.

Cabrini is celebrating 75 years in Australia, a remarkable story from humble beginnings.

We have never lost sight of the original mission to provide compassionate, quality care, and remain inspired by the spirit and vision of Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini.

Sister Beatriz and Sister Theresa were both professed as Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in the Cabrini Malvern chapel over 50 years ago, worked in the hospital and remain an important part of our community.

"We are proud that our Sisters came to Melbourne to start this great Cabrini Health service and pleased that we have contributed to its growth and special Cabrini spirit," Sr Beatriz said.

With hospitals in Malvern, Brighton and Elsternwick, it is our privilege to care for the community.

Thank you for helping to ensure Cabrini remains one of the leading Catholic, non-profit, private healthcare services in Melbourne's southeast.

Cabrini, 75 years of care from the heart.

#cabrini #75years #75yearsofcabrini



Missionary Sisters Theresa Cervasio (l.) and Beatriz Santos took their perpetual vows in the Cabrini Malvern chapel. Since January 24, 1948, so many years of dedicated service to the people of Malvern and environs!



The story began on 7 June, 1946, the day of Mother Cabrini's canonization when Mother General Antonietta Della Casa receive a message from the Archbishop of Melbourne. He invited her to send Missionary Sisters to Australia to take over St. Benedict's, a small private hospital owned by the Mercy Sisters. Mother Antonietta sought the counsel of the Holy Father, Pope Pius XII. In July, she sent a positive response to the Archbishop and set about making arrangements for an Australian mission.

She chose ten Sisters and visited each to interview and brief them. Six were Italian, one was British, and three were U.S. citizens. In post-war Europe it was difficult to organize the money it would require to purchase the hospital. More concerning was their travel. The answer came in the form of a chartered flight, which became known as the 'flying convent'.

On 24 January, 1948, the Sisters arrived in Melbourne from Rome after a long ten-day journey. ~ 100 Years of Cabrini Mission

~Cath Garner

Salvagio Named President and CEO of Cabrini High School

NEW ORLEANS – Sheri Salvagio has been named president and CEO of Cabrini High School by the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Cabrini’s board of trustees. Salvagio served as interim president since June of 2022.

“It is my honor and joy to be entrusted with this sacred responsibility,” said Salvagio in a press release. “I am eager to continue working alongside our longtime Principal Yvonne Hrapmann; dedicated administration, faculty and staff; and students and their families to continue the rich educational and spiritual legacy of St. Frances X. Cabrini.”

Over the last six months, Cabrini has introduced scholarship opportunities, established a three-year strategic plan, named a special projects director to explore the possibility of expanding Cabrini’s popular Crescent Cradle nursery school, initiated a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between Cabrini High School and NORD and increased in-person participation in the Parents Association meetings.



Ms. Sheri Salvagio

Salvagio is a New Orleans native with more than two decades of experience in Catholic school education and administration. She holds a master’s degree in business administration from the University of New Orleans and a master’s degree in religious education as well as a Bachelor of Arts in psychology from Loyola University in New Orleans.

Prior to her interim turned permanent presidency, she ran Cabrini’s advancement and alumnae relations, which included managing the annual giving campaign and fundraising, writing grants, advancing the Continuing Her Legacy Capital Campaign and managing scholarships.

“Our young women learn to think critically and communicate effectively in an environment where the core values of respect, excellence and service are instilled and permeate the curriculum and campus culture,” said Salvagio. “It is my honor and joy to serve in a school community that also helps each student find her unique passion and to achieve God’s call upon her life.” ~ submitted by Madeline LeBlanc, Cabrini High School

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION 2022

Cabrini Immigrant Services of NYC



The elves of Cabrini Immigrant Services – NYC brought Christmas joy to so many people.

On December 17th, 2022, we celebrated Christmas with the families of both old and new clients. It was a new experience for all of our staff, since we have been in a new facility since May 2022. We had 60 families and 111 children. In order to

provide better attention and have more space, we divided the group in two and the result was excellent. We could see the families engaging and expressing their connection to our organization.

We organized different activities: face painting, arts and crafts, games, food, and of course, the presence of Santa! The children received toys and jackets, and some of the older children were given gift cards.



This little boy knows that Santa is #1 and so is Cabrini Immigrant Services – NYC!



Christmas is about families and friends. CIS-NYC Director Javier Ramirez Baron (l.) and Sr. Yolanda Flores, MSC (c.) greet their guests.

Our staff got very involved in the preparation and coordination of the event. We also had the help of some of our Angel Fund Scholarship students. Every year committed volunteers like Luzmila Limongi de Pizarro, Brigid Sullivan, and Brigid's team of friends help us ensure the event is a success. As she has for many years, Brigid provided lunch for all of our attendees.

At the end of the day, a sense of joy and accomplishment accompanied all of us. We experienced so many smiling faces, expressions of joy and gratitude.

~ submitted by Sr. Yolanda Flores, MSC and Ella Nimmo, Cabrini Immigrant Services, NYC

Cabrini High School Students Sharing What Their Catholic Education Means to Them



A handful of Cabrini High School students will be featured in the Catholic Schools Week issue of the Clarion Herald (Archdiocese of New Orleans newspaper) on January 21st. Please see below for their reflections on what Catholic education means to them...

Courtney Carroll - 12th grade

Knowing the sacrifice my parents make to put me in a Catholic school, I often pressure myself to be the best: the best student, the best participant, the best everything. As you can guess, this mentality has clashed more than a few times with reality. But this perception is the exact reason I am thankful for my education. Catholic school has taught me to be my best *self*, not the best *everything*. I have strengths and I have faults, but the amazing community and support I found thanks to Catholic schooling has helped me become the person I am today.



Keion Dorvilier - 12th grade

My parents are very devout Christians. They came from Haiti in the late 80s or early 90s with what little they had and the faith of God. Growing up, they always put a heavy emphasis on Christian values. This led to my sisters and me being put through Catholic school at a very young age. My parents, more specifically, my mom, put aside her own education and dreams of traveling aside to help us find our vocations through God. Even today, she works overtime at her job to pay off my tuition, contribute to my savings and fund my prom dress. Despite our ups and downs, my parents' sacrifice helped build me into the strong person I am today and I couldn't be more thankful.



Mary Napoleon - 12th grade

Unique from my friends who only gain knowledge about the mind and body, my Catholic education teaches me about the mind, body, *and soul*. I appreciate the opportunity to receive an education that focuses on my success beyond academics. I feel privileged to attend a school that cares about nourishing our souls and encouraging us to strengthen our relationship with God.



Genevieve Cruz – 9th grade

I appreciate my Catholic School education because it builds me into a better character and nourishes my mental, physical, social, and spiritual success. I am able to learn the importance of self-discipline which builds my character and my academic success. Going to a Catholic school has brought me closer to God and to live like Christ which has brought me to make better decisions.



Kaiden Wolfe – 9th grade

I get to learn that human life is sacred and that the dignity of the human person is the foundation of a moral vision for society. I am lucky to have a school that offers values such as wisdom, justice, compassion, and integrity. Catholic education also makes sure that I promote the common good and be respectful to others so they can respect me.



~ submitted by Madeline LeBlanc, Cabrini High School

An Official University Welcome to Sr. Bridget



Photo above: Sr. Amarech Herego LeFamo, MSC (I.) joins Cabrini students in extending a warm welcome to Sr. Bridget Zanic, MSC (2nd r.) at a reception on campus.

Photo below: Happy to greet Sr. Bridget are Interim President Helen Drinan (c.) and staff member Allison Malazita.



Now that classes have commenced for the spring semester, Sr. Christine Marie Baltas, MSC, Campus Ministry Associate, extended an invitation to join in some fellowship to officially welcome Sr. Bridget Zanic, MSC to Cabrini University.

Sr. Bridget's office is located in the MSC Cottage on campus where she will be serving as a spiritual director. Sr. Bridget has been making the rounds of campus buildings sharing information about spiritual direction.

Already, several members of the University community have made appointments with Sr. Bridget.

The University is grateful for Sr. Bridget's presence and wish her well in her new ministry.

Cabrini University Giving Service on MLK Day

Students, faculty and staff joined together to serve on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day on Monday, January 16th. This Cabrini group volunteered at The Joy of Sox warehouse

in Phoenixville, PA, counting socks that had been donated through recent school sock drives and banding and packaging the socks for distribution to shelters and organizations that provide direct services



The Joy of Sox founder, Tom Costello, Jr. (c.) gives a warm welcome to Cabrini students Bushra (l.) Patrick (2nd r.) and Precious (r.) who pitched right in to count and sort donated socks along with Michelle Filling-Brown, Ph.D. Dean, Academic Affairs (2nd l.), and Social Work faculty member Jason Mattise-Nauman, MSW.

for men, women and children who are experiencing homelessness.



Cabrini University staff member Liz Kanaras (l.) and Cabrini student volunteers Bushra and Patrick count socks donated by a manufacturer preparing them for distribution. All socks in and socks out must be tracked.

Tom Costello, Jr., the Founder of The Joy of Sox, expressed his gratitude for the ongoing collaboration of Cabrini University and The Joy of Sox.

“We have a long history with Cabrini University. Since our inception in 2010, Cabrini alumni and more recently, Cabrini students, have formed the heart of our volunteer organization. The University community has generously donated to our mission through the *Give Hope*,

Give Love, Give Socks campaigns. We are now in our 13th year of operation and this year, we are going for our millionth pair of socks distributed to those living without adequate shelter. We remain deeply grateful for the ongoing synergy with Cabrini University and believe this is our way of continuing the legacy of Mother Cabrini.”

March for Life Returns to D.C.

~ by Brian Fraga, National Catholic Reporter

Nearly seven months since the U.S. Supreme Court struck down *Roe v. Wade* and returned the issue of abortion to the individual state legislatures, tens of thousands of anti-abortion activists will descend on Washington, D.C. for the 50th annual March for Life on January 20.

They will march during an historical juncture for the pro-life movement, which is celebrating the landmark goal of overturning *Roe* even as the movement has since been of the receiving end of [an electoral backlash](#) where abortion rights activists prevailed in several state-level ballot initiatives and pro-choice Democrats fared better than expected in the 2022 midterm elections.



Pro-life advocates participate in the March for Life in Washington, D.C.

“The pro-life movement has just experienced a major victory in the fall of *Roe v. Wade*, but our work to build a culture of life is far from complete,” Jeanne Mancini, the President of March for Life, told the National Catholic Reporter (NCR) in a prepared statement that referenced the 1973 landmark abortion ruling that the high court reversed in June 2022 with *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization*.

Mancini said the march will reflect upon Dobbs “as a critical milestone” while looking forward “to the next steps.”

Meanwhile, Mary Ziegler, of the University of California Davis School of Law noted in an interview with NCR that multiple public opinion polls over several decades show that voters in the United States generally support keeping abortion legal while favoring some restrictions earlier in pregnancy. “Now that *Roe* is gone, that’s opened the door to bills that would criminalize abortions all together, and a lot of voters don’t like that.”

Signaling a new phase for the movement, activists in 2023 will march to the steps of the U.S. Capitol instead of the Supreme Court. To read the full account, please click [here](#)